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MVD/INC.001CP1

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants	:	Erik J. van der Burg et al.)	Group Art Unit: 3761
)	
Appl. No.	:	09/435,562)	
)	
Filed	:	November 8, 1999)	
)	
For	:	METHOD AND DEVICE FOR)	
		LEFT ATRIAL APPENDAGE)	
		OCCLUSION)	
)	
Examiner	:	Glenn K. Dawson)	
)	

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

[Signature] January 10, 2002
(Date)
Gerard von Hoffmann, Reg. No. 33,043

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This communication is in response to the Office Action mailed December 11, 2001. The Examiner has required restriction to one of four inventions:

Group I (Claims 1-18, 38-46 and 51-60), drawn to an occlusion device, classified in Class 606, subclass 213;

Group II (Claims 19-24), drawn to a method of making an occlusion device, classified in Class 76, subclass 101.1;

Group III (Claims 25-35 and 47-50), drawn to a method of occluding, classified in Class 128, subclasss 898; and

Group IV (Claims 36-37), drawn to a method of facilitating cell growth, classified in Class 128, subclass 898.

The Examiner has also required election of one of the following species:

- I. Fig. 1-3;
- II. Fig. 3A, 3B;

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- III. Fig. 6-8;
- IV. Fig 15;
- V. Fig. 16;
- VI. Fig. 17;
- VII. Fig. 19;
- VIII. Fig. 20-22;
- IX. Fig. 24, 25;
- X. Fig. 26, 27;
- XI. Fig. 28, 29;
- XII. Fig. 30, 31;
- XIII. Fig. 32;
- XIV. Fig. 33;
- XV. Fig. 34B; and
- XVI. Fig. 35.

Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, to prosecute the claims directed to Invention I, (Claims 1-18, 38-46 and 51-60) classified in Class 606, subclass 213. Claim 1-17 read on at least Species IX. Claim 18 reads on at least Species X. Claims 38-46 read on at least Species XII. Claims 51-60 read on at least Species XII. Applicants elect Species XII, upon which Claims 38-46 and 51-60 are readable. Please cancel Claims 1-37 and 47-50, without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the nonelected claims in one or more continuing applications. Accordingly, prompt examination on the merits of Claims 38-46 and 51-60 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 1/10/02

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